

Message Text

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TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6124

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TAGS: TPHY, UR

SUBJECT: US-USSR OCEANOGRAPHY AGREEMENT: VISIT OF SOVIET RESEARCH
VESSEL "AKADEMIK KURCHATOV"

REF A. MOSCOW 9300 B. STATE 5378 C. WARD/MARTINEAU TELECON,
1/13/75

FOR EUR/SOV

1. DEPARTMENT REQUESTED INFORM DR. DONALD MARTINEAU, NOAA, THAT
SCIOFF MET WITH SYROYEGINA OF SCST AND CAPTAIN G. N. GRIGORYEV,
MAIN MARINE INSPECTOR OF THE USSR ACADEMY OF SCIENCES, REGARDING
PROPOSED VISIT OF SOVIET RESEARCH VESSEL "AKADEMIK KURCHATOV" TO
ALEXANDRIA, VIRGINIA.

2. ACCORDING TO GRIGORYEV, THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES IS NOT IN A
POSITION TO FORMALLY REQUEST A PORT CALL AT ALEXANDRIA UNTIL IT
RECEIVES SUFFICIENT NAVIGATIONAL DATA ON THE POTOMAC RIVER TO
SATISFY THE SHIP'S CAPTAIN. SPECIFICALLY, THE SOVIETS HAVE RE-
QUESTED INFORMATION ON THE NAVIGATIONAL CONDITIONS ON THE POTOMAC,
INCLUDING DETAILED NAVIGATIONAL MAPS AND CHARTS. THESE CHARTS
COULD BE PROVIDED TO THE CAPTAIN AT THE FIRST US PORT OF CALL,
WOODS HOLE.

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3. ACCORDING TO GRIGORYEV, THE "AKADEMIK KURCHATOV" REQUIRES A 21-FOOT CHANNEL. THE VESSEL'S MAST EXTENDS 38 METERS, REPEAT METERS, ABOVE THE WATERLINE AND GRIGORYEV REQUESTS INFORMATION ON BRIDGES TO BE PASSED UNDER ALONG THE POTOMAC OR AT ANY OTHER POINT IN THE BAY AREA. SOVIETS ALSO ASKED WHETHER A PILOT AND TUG-BOAT ASSISTANCE WOULD BE PROVIDED OR WHETHER AN ESCORT VESSEL WOULD ACCOMPANY THE SOVIET VESSEL UP THE POTOMAC.

4. SOVIETS WOULD APPRECIATE SIMILAR INFORMATION REGARDING CONDITIONS AT WOODS HOLE. GRIGORYEV NOTED THAT PERHAPS THE VESSEL WOULD DOCK AT THE HARBOR OF "REED MARINE COLLEGE" APPROXIMATELY SEVEN MILES SOUTH OF WOODS HOLE BECAUSE THE HARBOR THERE IS DEEPER.

5. GRIGORYEV SAID THAT IF NAVIGATIONAL PROBLEMS WERE TO PRECLUDE VISIT TO ALEXANDRIA, THE "AKADEMIK KURCHATOV" MIGHT POSSIBLY STOP AT NEW YORK TO ALLOW THE DISEMBARKATION OF THE WOODS HOLE SCIENTISTS AND TO TAKE ON THE SECOND US CONTINGENT.

6. PLEASE ADVISE ASAP.
STOESSEL

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